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August 1, 2012

EX PARTE

Ms. Marlene Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: MB Docket No. 10-71, Amendment of the Commission's Rules Related to Retransmission Consent

WC Docket No. 11-118, NCTA Petitions Regarding Section 652 of the Communications Act

MB Docket No. 11-169, PP Docket No. 00-67, Basic Service Tier Encryption; Compatibility Between Cable Systems And Consumer Electronics Equipment

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On July 30, 2012, Mr. Steve Miron, CEO of Bright House Networks (BHN), and the undersigned met with the following officials of the FCC to discuss BHN's views regarding the above-captioned dockets:

Commissioner Mignon Clyburn, along with Dave Grimaldi, Chief of Staff and Media Legal Advisor, and Seth Atkinson, law clerk

Commissioner Ajit Pai, along with his Chief of Staff, Matthew Berry

Holly Sauer, Legal Advisor, Media, Office of Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel

In regards to retransmission consent, Mr. Miron discussed the effects of the July 2012 retransmission consent blackout of the NBC affiliate station in Orlando on BHN's system in that community and urged the FCC to address the effect such blackouts have on customers. In particular, he urged the FCC to follow up on the recommendation made by FCC Chairman Genachowski at the May NCTA National Show to restrict the ability of one entity negotiating for two or more stations in a market.¹

¹ See Los Angeles Times, May 22, 2012, available at <http://articles.latimes.com/2012/may/22/entertainment/la-et-ct-fcc-20120522>: "While

In regards to Section 652 regarding cable acquisition of CLECs, Mr. Miron urged the FCC to adopt the forbearance approach recommended in the NCTA's petition. A grant will allow cable operators to acquire in-market CLECs without the uncertainty and delay possible with the existing waiver process. Mr. Miron emphasized that BHN's ability to expand in the enterprise space, with the potential acquisition of CLECs, will provide a more competitive market for communications services to small and medium businesses.

Regarding the encryption of the basic tier proposed in MB Docket No. 11-169, Mr. Miron noted the competitive imbalance in the current rules: the two DBS operators, with whom BHN competes directly for video subscribers, were permitted to encrypt their basic tiers without seeking the FCC's approval. Allowing for encryption will allow BHN to facilitate customer requests regarding video service without truck rolls and allow for BHN's transition to all-digital lineups. BHN is one of the six major companies working with the NCTA to formulate a response to some of the compatibility issues that have been raised in the docket.

In accordance with FCC rules, this letter is being filed in the above captioned dockets. Please contact the undersigned regarding any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Daniel Brenner

Daniel Brenner

Genachowski continued to indicate that broadcasters have the right to seek cash in return for distribution of their channels, he did question whether broadcasters have too much leverage in some negotiations. For example, some television stations that have different owners have entered into what is known in the industry as a "shared services agreement." Such arrangements can result in one company negotiating on behalf of as many as three television stations. "That raises real issues," Genachowski said.